

BASIN TRANSIT

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, September 22, 2022 5:00 p.m.
Basin Transit Operations Center
62405 Verbena Road
Joshua Tree, CA 92252

ACTION MINUTES

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – Chair Abel called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Board Member Harrington led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Jeff Drozd
Karmollette O’Gilvie
McArthur Wright
Ellen Jackman

Danielle Harrington
Ben Sasnett
Merl Abel

Members Absent:

None

2.0 SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Recognition of Retired Coach Operator

Matt Atkins, Operations Manager, congratulated retiring Coach Operator, Robert Whennen, on his upcoming retirement on September 27th. Matt shared that Robert has been with Basin Transit servicing the community for just over 14 years. Matt continued that Robert has been an outstanding employee, and the “go-to” employee for new employees. Matt closed out his recognition by thanking Robert for his years of dedicated service and wished him well on his next chapter of life.

3.0 CLOSED SESSION

3.1 Personnel Matters, Procurement Director Evaluation

With Board Member consensus, Chair Abel moved Closed Session to the last item following new business.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

One (1) public comment was made by:

- Rebecca, Morongo Basin Healthcare District

5.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

- 5.1 Minutes of the July 28, 2022 Board Meeting*
- 5.2 Treasurer's Report for June and July 2022
- 5.3 Warrant Register through July 31, 2022
- 5.4 Ridership Reports
- 5.5 Financial Reports
- 5.6 General Manager's Reports
- 5.7 Operations Report
- 5.8 Can-A-Ride Day on November 17, 2022
- 5.9 Approval of Purchase Order for Raul Brave and Associates

ACTION: Board Member O'Gilvie moved to approve the Consent Calendar (items 5.1 - 5.9), with correction; seconded by Board Member Drozd: passed by Roll Call Vote (7-0).

*Correction made to reflect that Board Member Drozd seconded the motion for the action taken on item 8.1 at the July 28, 2022 Board meeting.

6.0 ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR PARTICIPATION AND/OR ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

7.0 OLD BUSINESS

NONE

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Transportation Assistance Grant (TAG) Awards

A brief oral report was given by Joe Meer. Eight (8) Public comments were made by TAG applicants. All Board Members expressed their appreciation for the community services provided by the TAG applicants.

ACTION: Board Member Sasnett moved to approve the FY23 program budget increase and funding for recommended TAG Program awards; seconded by Board Member Harrington: passed by Roll Call Vote (7-0).

8.2 FY 2021/22 End of Year Update

Cheri Holsclaw gave an FY 2021/22 year-end review presentation that addressed the previous year's budget and actuals, ridership, upcoming projects and future funding outlook.

9.0 GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE

Cheri Holsclaw shared an update on upcoming operator training for new hires and thanked the Board for approving the starting wage increase to allow for the staff needed. Cheri also thanked Matt for all the hard work he's put into recruiting and bringing on the new staff of seven (7) Drivers and one (1) Utility Worker since July. Cheri went on to say that this is the first time since before the pandemic that Basin Transit has been fully staffed.

10.0 FUTURE BOARD INITIATED AGENDA ITEMS

Vice Chair Wright requested that staff consider increasing the TAG budget for next year because the funding award amounts have exceeded the budget amount for the past two (2) years.

11.0 BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board Member Sasnett congratulated Robert on his retirement and gave a warm reception to the TAG grantees.

Board Member Jackman congratulated Robert on his retirement and commented that the buses, and even the agenda, look great. She further expressed to Cheri for providing the End of Year update.

Board Member Drozd congratulated Robert on his retirement and stated that it was nice to see members of the public at the meeting. Board Member Drozd also mentioned that it's so nice to work with an agency that is so responsive and

responsible which makes it really easy for the Board. He further stated that he felt the same way about the Town of Yucca Valley and his fellow Board Members.

Board member Harrington commented that she thinks the Board made the right decision with the new logo and colors of Basin Transit. She stated that all the buses look great, they really stand out and look modern. She congratulated the agency on getting those first buses out.

Board Member O'Gilvie congratulated Robert on his retirement and stated that she was really touched by the lives the agency is affecting through partnering with the various community organizations with the TAG grant. She stated that she is proud to have her name attached to such an amazing program and shared that she thinks it's awesome that Basin Transit is giving back to the community in all the various ways.

Vice-Chair Wright commented that the agency is doing a fantastic job and to keep it up. He further stated he's loving the logo and the changes. He also expressed that he loves the TAG program because it helps so many people in the community, and that it's able to be done while maintaining a great budget.

Chair Abel stated that it's really fun to be part of Basin Transit, expressed his appreciation and thanked the staff for all the work that's done.

Chair Abel reminded all in attendance that the next Board meeting will be Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

3.0 CLOSED SESSION


3.1 Personnel Matters, Procurement Director Evaluation

Chair Abel reported that Joe Meer, Procurement Manager received the highest commendations and that the Board is pleased to report that he's doing a fantastic job on behalf of the organization.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m. Thursday, September 22, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michal Brock", is written over a horizontal line.

Michal Brock, Assistant Board Secretary